

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 16, 2007, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 16, 2007. Claims 1-3 and 6-13 are pending in the application.

Examiner Interview

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the Restriction Action on March 14, 2007. The amendments herein are presented in accordance with the substance of the discussion to place the application in condition for allowance.

Election/Restriction

Claims 1-3 and 6-13 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The claims have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as follows:

- Group I. Claims 1-3, drawn to a method for producing an increase in the refractive index of a fiber comprising exposing, annealing, and exposing a portion of the fiber, classified in class 65, subclass 384.
- Group II. Claims 6-8, drawn to a method for altering a waveguide to achieve a desired optical signal response using measuring and an iterative process to reduce an increase in a section of a waveguide, classified in class 65, subclass 384.
- Group III. Claims 9-12, drawn to a system for altering a waveguide having Bragg gratings with measuring, heating, data processing, and control means, classified in class 385, subclass 37.
- Group IV. Claim 13, drawn to a method for altering a waveguide with Bragg gratings to a desired optical signal response using measuring and localized heating means to at least partially erase a section of the Bragg grating, classified in class 385, subclass 37.

Applicant provisionally elects Group II, claims 6-8 without traverse. Applicant has amended claims 7-8 to correct informalities. Further, Applicant has added new claims 14-24. Applicant believes that new claims 14-24 read on Group II. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that new claims 14-24 be examined with claims 6-8. Additionally, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-3, 9-12, and 13 without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application based upon the subject matter in claims 1-3, 9-12, and 13.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the Restriction Requirement, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement.

Respectfully submitted,



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